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Information bulletin Japan: Earthquake

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n° EQ-2018-000143-JPN	Date of issue: 6 September 2018
Date of disaster: 6 September 2018	Point of contact (name and title): Nobuaki Sato, International Relief Division, International Department
Operation start date: 6 September 2018	Expected timeframe: -
Host National Society(ies): Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS)	
Number of people affected: 3 million households	Number of people to be assisted: -
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation (if available and relevant): -	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation (if available and relevant): -	

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Japanese Red Cross Society (JRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined that external assistance is not required, and is therefore not seeking funding or other assistance from donors at this time.

The situation

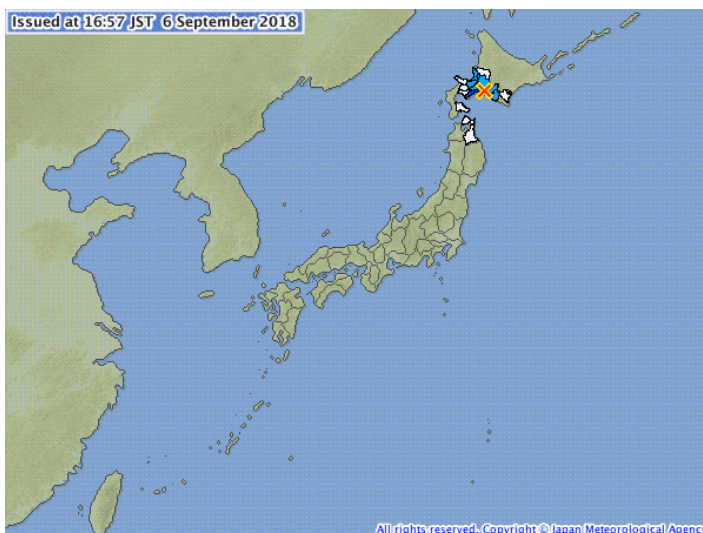
The 6.7 magnitude earthquake struck the island of Hokkaido, located in the northern part of Japan, on Thursday 6 September 2018. The tremor struck 62km (39 miles) south-east of the regional capital Sapporo in the early hours in the morning (local time).

The earthquake recorded a tremor with an intensity of 7 based on the Japanese seven-stage seismic scale, which is one of the strongest earthquakes Hokkaido island as ever experienced, leading to the cause of landslides, liquefaction and ripping roads apart.

According to the Fire and Disaster Management Agency, as of 6 September 2018, 1500hrs local time, four people have lost their lives, eight are in critical condition, 288 people injured and are being continuously evaluated for their injury levels and 31 are still missing. At the same time, 3,657 people are being evacuated. Evacuation shelters are being set up in many towns and cities. Water supply and local public transportation are disrupted in some areas.

The earthquake posed no tsunami risk, as the Japanese Meteorological Agency announced, yet it is alerted that aftershocks may continue within the week.

The earthquake caused a cut off of electrical power supply to nearly 3 million household and damaged the key thermal plant in Hokkaido. However, one of the plants was brought back online 12 hours after the earthquake, yet according to the Japan Economy Minister, to fully restore electrical power supply throughout the region could take more than a week. A nuclear plant - which was non-operational – had to switch on its back-up power supply to ensure it is in steady temperature and is reported to be in stable condition. Currently, some hospitals are on



Locations of the Japan earthquake. (Source: Japan Meteorological Agency)

emergency back-up power and six hospitals are turning away emergency patients because of power outages according to media report.

Japanese Government has set up an emergency task force and providing search and rescue right after the earthquake. Japan Self-Defense Forces are deploying 25,000 personnel for relief efforts.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

JRCS has a chapter in each prefecture and the affected chapter are distributing 850 blankets, 520 sleeping kits and is planning to distribute 1,024 emergency kits in the coming days.

JRCS are deploying eight JRCS National Medical Relief Teams to the affected cities and two more teams are expected to reach the affected areas by 8 September 2018, along with five more teams to be deployed. Based on the assessment and coordination with the local government and other humanitarian actors, the relief teams shall provide medical services according to the needs. Due to the fact that some of the infrastructures are damaged, the needs might change when more assessments are conducted.

IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur is in constant communication with JRCS and monitoring the situation closely. APRO is on standby to provide any assistance if required.



Coordination and assessment team leaving to reach the affected area. (Photo: JRCS)



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Contact information

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.
